

What is claimed is:

1. A system for providing a user interface presenting patient medical parameter data, comprising:

an acquisition processor for acquiring, from a patient monitoring device, data representing a patient parameter; and

a processor for initiating generation of data representing at least one display image including,

(a) a current value of a patient parameter and

(b) a sliding bar representation of said patient parameter current value together with a range indicator for graphically indicating whether said current value is out side of a user determined range.

2. A system according to claim 1, wherein

said sliding bar representation includes a current value indicator image element and a range limit identifier image element having a common display attribute when said current value is within said range limit.

3. A system according to claim 1, wherein

said image element common display attribute comprises at least one of, (a) a particular image element color, (b) a particular image element shape, (c) a particular image element type of highlighting, (d) a particular image element foreground or background, (e) a particular type of image element shading, (f) a particular image element outline, and (g) a particular image element fill pattern.

4. A system according to claim 1, wherein

said sliding bar representation user determined range includes at least one of, (a) a normal range indicator, (b) a cautionary range indicator and (c) an excessive range indicator and graphically indicates where said current value is within a range.

5. A system according to claim 1, wherein

said sliding bar representation includes a current value indicator image element and a plurality of range limit identifier image elements corresponding to a plurality of value ranges and an individual range limit identifier has a common display attribute with said current value indicator image element when said current value is within said individual range.

6. A system according to claim 5, wherein

said plurality of ranges comprise at least two of, (i) a normal range, (ii) a cautionary range and (iii) an excessive range and

said image element common display attribute comprises at least one of, (a) a particular image element color, (b) a particular image element shape, (c) a particular image element type of highlighting, (d) a particular image element foreground or background, (e) a particular type of image element shading, (f) a particular image element outline, and (g) a particular image element fill pattern.

7. A system according to claim 1, wherein

said at least one display image includes at least one of, (a) a value of said patient parameter received prior to said current parameter value, (b) a normal value of said patient parameter, (c) a time interval substantially indicative of time between measurement of said current parameter value and a previously received parameter value, (d) a patient parameter label.

8. A system according to claim 7, wherein

a patient parameter label has a common display attribute with another different patient parameter label, said display attribute comprising at least one of, (a) a particular image element color, (b) a particular image element shape, (c) a particular image element type of highlighting, (d) a particular image element foreground or background, (e) a particular type of image element shading, (f) a particular image element outline, and (g) a particular image element fill pattern.

9. A user interface system according to claim 1, wherein

said patient parameter comprises at least one of, (a) a blood pressure parameter, (b) a ventilation parameter, (c) a vital sign parameter, (d) a blood oxygen concentration representative parameter, (e) a spontaneous tidal volume parameter, (f) a respiratory rate parameter, (g) a positive end-expiratory pressure parameter, (h) a temperature, (i) a heart rate, (j) a cardiac output, (k) an infusion pump parameter associated with fluid delivery, (l) a drip medication related parameter and (m) another fluid related parameter.

10. A system according to claim 1, wherein

said sliding bar representation represents at least one of, (a) a linear scale, (b) a logarithmic scale.

11. A system according to claim 10, wherein

said sliding bar representation includes a current value indicator image element and a range limit identifier image element positioned at user determined positions indicative of proportions of slide bar full scale.

12. A system according to claim 1, wherein

said sliding bar representation comprises at least one of, (a) a bar along a single axis, (b) a bar along an axis at an angle from horizontal, (c) a curved bar, (d) a rotary bar and (e) a bar along a plurality of axes.

13. A system for providing a user interface presenting a plurality of patient medical parameters, comprising:

an acquisition processor for acquiring, from a patient monitoring device, data representing a plurality of patient parameters; and

a processor for initiating generation of data representing a single display image including,

(a) a plurality of current values of a plurality of patient parameters and

(b) sliding bar representations of said plurality of current values of said plurality of patient parameters together with corresponding range indicators for graphically indicating whether said current values are out side of corresponding user determined ranges.

14. A system according to claim 13, wherein individual current values and associated sliding bar representations of individual patient parameters are oriented in said single display image in at least one of, (a) a rotational orientation, (b) a horizontal orientation and (c) a vertical orientation.

15. A system according to claim 13, wherein said plurality of patient parameters are selected from within groups of parameters including at least one of, (a) a vascular related group of parameters, (b) a respiratory related group of parameters and (c) a laboratory related group of parameters.

16. A system according to claim 15, wherein said processor receives patient mass and height information for use in computing body surface area and cardiac index.

17. A system according to claim 13, wherein individual current values and associated sliding bar representations of individual patient parameters are ordered by type of associated patient parameter so that patient parameters that typically exhibit out of range conditions together are adjacent in said single display image.

18. A system for configuring a user interface display image for presenting patient medical parameter data, comprising:

a processor for initiating generation of data representing at least one display image including,

a linear sliding bar representation of a patient parameter value permitting user selection of a range limit identifier image element at a position indicative of a proportion of slide bar full scale, said range limit identifier image element being for use in a patient parameter display image for graphically indicating whether a patient parameter current value is out side of a user determined range.

19. A system according to claim 18, wherein
said linear sliding bar representation permits user selection of a plurality of range limit identifier image elements corresponding to at least two of, (a) a normal range indicator, (b) a cautionary range indicator and (c) an excessive range indicator and graphically indicates where said current value is within a range.

20. A system according to claim 18, wherein
said at least one display image includes data entry boxes enabling a user to enter at least one of, (a) a minimum parameter value, (b) a normal parameter value and (c) a maximum parameter value.